

ENGLISH SUMMARY

The first lines of this summary I wish them to hold our gratefulness. The Spanish readers of "Architecture" and myself, thank those personalities of English speech that take part on this number of the review. It is devoted to Kenya, as the best example of African society.

European countries are considered an aim by Afroasiatic communities. Yet occidental civilisation has something to learn from those who are trying to follow our path.

They are offering us a wonderful oppor-

tunity to remember what we were centuries before the industrial revolution.

Although our culture and theirs hold different traditions, we have in common the way of adopting the sophisticated structures of a modern society.

If we observe these states it will seem we are looking over our ancestor's album of portraits. Easily we shall find out they are making our own mistakes. Therefore we shall discover what reason for our society have been carried away to "cul de sac" since it has gone across social and physical established ways we sincerely reject.

I regret not to have near by the original version of Mr. Jomo Kenyatta "Facing Mount Kenya". It is all about an interesting description of the manners among the kikuyu people. By elaborating this number of "Architecture" interesting reports have been picked out from it.

Lastly I am very thankful to Mr. Carlos de Miguel "Architecture's" director. This present literary sample of the noble african people shall appear under the mark of enthusiasm he has shown on the preparations.

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Architect.

COMENTARY ON THE BOOK BY JOMO KENYATTA

"Facing Mount Kenya"

What african traditions hold about family and clan ought to be kept. Mainly for they are the very rich basis to build up a new country. Unfortunately occidental civilization is too demoted in what these aspects is concerned.

On the other hand Christianity has given us some ideas very uncommon to african traditions. Therefore for instance the social situation of woman strike us.

Even in the nice description that Mr. Kenyatta does of an african home, it is necessary to lay stress on how rubbed out woman appears. The reverence that surrounds her is connected with a human depreciation. Maybe one reason for the polygamy is to see woman as an element of the growth.

By considering life through african societies we have a good chance to look into what we were before the industrial revolution. Although there is a quite definite and essential difference. African countries are hastily passing by the periods between two epochs very distant for us.

If we were gazing upon their actions it

would look like going over the photographs of our ancestors. So that, once we discover their mistakes we shall find the roots of our misfortunes.

I regret the enormous contrast between what is written above and the beautiful hope of a document of the Kenya government that says our history will help them to overcome their obstacles. In this way they will take the best of our faults.

Moreover I believe that if an outstanding part of our society changed the artisan of our middle aged cities into proletarian, nowadays is quite the same. With the "newcapitalism" society is again divided into classes. Let us have a look to the owners of "cadillac", to the public officials.

So that regarding facts we shall conclude what our ancestors did wrong is not a personal fault or a mistake caused by the generation.

Remembering our literature:

—Who murdered the "comendador"?

—Fuenteovejuna, Sir.

The occidental culture, proceeds from many years of connections between nature and human beings, as everyone does, however the difference rests on that in our culture the intellect has overcome the nature shaping what is called "civilisation".

A NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The new government built up a development program a few months after its independency.

By choosing a few points I will make you understand how the new african countries adopt the most progressive ways of the present world.

Unluckily, man is usually a detail among those that form part of a development plan, future is measured in K. W. per hour and chimneys are seen as spots in the dreamed landscape. Very often, in the background only a word is left: prestige.

Certainly, countries are very childish, chiefly, when man stops being the center of progress.

Even when a european would doubt of the effective contents of any plan, the Kenya's has a philosophy, named african democratic socialism.

AFRICAN SOCIALISM AND ITS APPLICATION TO THE PLANNING OF KENYA

INTRODUCTION

Kenya is passing from a period of selfliving to another of money economy, from the

kingdom of agriculture to a balanced system of development. A national exploit of the resources contrast with the old one that benefited the foreigners.

MEANING OF AFRICAN SOCIALISM

This phrase means a political and economical system in that continent. Its principal features are:

- It follows the african traditions.
- It fits a change quickly.
- It need not to move round other countries.

AFRICAN TRADITIONS

There is only a very large party which every citizen can belong to. All opinions are heard nevertheless neither a person nor a party will keep a great political power.

RELIGION

It gives the society a strict moral.

THE MUTUAL SOCIAL RESPONSABILITY

It starts into the family getting the society as a whole.

THE RESOURCES: PROPERTY OF THE LAND

There are several opinions on property of the land in Africa. Some people fancy the tribe was the only owner of the land; other thinkers support the private property; while according to a group of historians the idea of property in some african tribes is missing. Anyhow it has nothing to do with the european notion of property.

THE PROBLEM OF THE SOCIAL CLASSES

The social classes do not exist in Africa. But to hinder them two measurements have been taken:

1) To throw of the foreign economical yoke.

2) To draw a plan that stops the aporeance of the classes.

THE FAMILIAR SAVINGS AND ITS PART IN THE COUNTRY DEVELOPMENT

Private savings are nearly unknown because of the low incomes. All the same the new countries need a foreign credit for its increase.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Education in Kenya is a terrible problem. Teachers, engineers, doctors, architects, managers are missing, so that foreigner specialists come to the country as it happens with the money.

MANPOWER

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Some half a million people, that is to say, about a 5 % of the inhabitants in Kenya is of workers and among the journeyman a half are peasants. A 45 % are under 15 years old. The remaining work in its own small farms. As far as the manufacture is concerned some 30 % relies on farm raw materials while the rest needs of the farming community for its consumption and keeping.

This is the coarse canvas of the economy of Kenya. Therewith we could say, as a result, its population depends mainly on agriculture.

The history of this land altogether with the economical structure have drawn this path; either by modernising or by rejecting this vast social tradition the future of Kenya will be decided.

If we read the government development plans through we could affirm that future seems safe and prosperous. But man has to be worried about what caverns lay beneath the ground on which he builds up his city. That is the reason for this article on manpower will attempt to explore a few of them.

TRADITIONS

A child grows up on a 2 hectar plot or 3 in the tribal land; he lives in a society

strongly aware of the social bonds that hold its members together. Mutual dependency makes this culture to live on; members take care of the bodily needs of their wide family. This word means any kind of relations, members of the same circumcision group, and the children of one's own brother circumcision group.

The low technical quality of farming is also due to traditions. And as a final point it has to be noted that property is private, magnitude.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

This for it has been shown how the tradition that has helped drive men from the land, has them been responsible for protecting them in their need but now it is necessary to assess whether the traditional society can actually be the long term seed bed for economic growth.

Economic growth depends on investment creating industries with employment opportunities. These are essential since the population of Kenya is growing at 3 % annually and there are therefore an increasing number of new entrants to the labour market every year. Moreover the subdivision of large farms is a retrograde step: those small properties do not offer steady employment and even new owners do not add up to the original labour force on some farms.

One of the ways of encouraging investment is to show a large potential market and it is on this line that education should gradually play its part in development.

This would entail a profound sociological revolution, since it would mean depending on others for the wherewithal of life. To people who are used to shopping for their foods its probably hard to understand the act of faith necessary to believe that someone else will provide you with your consumption needs.

A direct result of all of this development would be the education of people to the profit motive for business. This would provide yet further savings and hence make investment possible. But here one encounters a conflict for the prosperity of the community as a whole saving are necessary individual's savings, whereas under the traditional society all properties had social obligations and those in need could claim the help of another's unused surplus. Thus savings would be eaten away and the profit motive indetermined, the former removes while two special form of it: land and cattle, are regarded as wealth in themselves.

EDUCATION

With the coming of self-government new desires have arisen out. Native people could apply to a large number of jobs forbidden beforehand. Education was seen as the key to prosperity and power.

This new call for help was answered as others in the past. Education was paid for members of the family will get renown. Sons and relations were sent to school to insure the future.

URBAN DRIFT

Towns in Kenya are very peculiar because of the meaning of wealth, education and woman. Young people have drifted to urban centers. They come over looking for a job. The youth wants either to enjoy itself or to avoid the demands of its relations. Whatever the reason a man has to live in a town, he does not see it as his home. The number of urban families is not very large. Men usually join town to save money leaving wives and small plots. The buildings one finds in Nairobi reflect the unsettled population.

In Nairobi's last household survey in

1963, give 48% of the households sampled had other than immediate relatives staying with them. Furthermore it seems that those who tried to avoid the extended family system merely meet it again in the town, because at about this time, only two or three of the Africans in Nairobi were employed and yet the unemployed were neither starving nor sleeping on the streets. The conclusion can only be that they had been cared for by their friends and relatives under the traditional system of hospitality and social relief. This has been so since neither the government nor the municipality had poor relief schemes

to cater for unemployment at this level of the means for the investment while the latter kills its motive.

The state would therefore have to undertake investment or encourage the introduction of foreign capital. Now if the state undertakes the investment it opposes the tradition of private property and if foreign investment is exclusively relied upon them, the country is once more economically dependent.

It seems therefore that the future of Kenya depends on the ability of the people to condition them selves to a number of radical changes.

REGIONAL PHYSICAL PLANNING IN KENYA

S. C. LOCK.

Town Planning Adviser.

ORGANIZATION FOR NATIONAL PLANNING

Kenya like most of the other newly independent and developing countries has wisely seen the necessity for embarking on a national development plan the first of which was published for the period 1964-70. The second Development Plan has recently been published for the period 1966-70 which revises the previous Plan. The Plan is set out in a comprehensive document of 400 pages and aims to achieve a balanced development in the economic, financial, social and physical spheres. Its preparation has been made possible by the feeding in of data and proposals to the central government planning team by each of the provinces and it is recognised that its implementation is a process of decentralization from the centre to the provinces and down to districts with coordination at central, provincial and district levels.

2. Major decisions and coordination of policy is ensured at the top by the Cabinet Development Committee which considers development proposals made by all ministries concerned. Below this in each of the seven provinces, there is to be a provincial development team composed of the provincial officers of each ministry department and a provincial advisory team composed of the members of parliament for the districts of the provinces. Each province is divided into districts and at this level there will also be district development and advisory teams.

3. It is hoped that in this way the full participation of the people will result and thus ensure the success of the plan.

4. The fact that the implementation of economic and industrial development im-

poses a change on the physical environment of the country is recognised. The responsibility of the Government Town Planning Department, which has previously been concerned with urban planning and rural settlement schemes, have been expanded to include regional physical planning. This will enable the preparation of physical development plans integrated with economic and social development in each of the seven provinces of the country. Physical aspects will be considered at the very inception of the plans in order to prevent the often witnessed chaotic development, which has recently taken place in western countries, and the proper direction of physical development will become a possibility.

5. A nucleus of the first regional planning team has been formed in the Town Planning Department and it is planned to set up two or three complete teams consisting of regional and urban planners who have had training in geography, sociology, economics, engineering or architecture, etc. These teams will work closely with the Economic Planning Division of the Government and all development agencies of government and local government.

6. Regional planning studies for the Central Province are now in progress and in order to make an impact quickly in the field of directing current development projects to the right places, the study has a first phase limited objective concerning infrastructure of the many existing towns and service centres. This will enable the establishment of a rational pattern of growth centres and communication network in place

of unplanned growth of services at the several levels.

DEMOGRAPHY

7. Due to migration from the rural areas and, in common with the general situation throughout Africa, there is a markedly higher rate of population increase in the towns compared with the normal rate of increase for Kenya as a whole.

8. The population Census carried out in Kenya in 1962, when related to the 1948 Census, indicates the following position:

- (a) The Kenya population increased from 5,405,966 in 1948 to 8,867,000 in 1962. (A growth of 3.0% per annum). If this trend continues the Kenya population in 1982 will be about 16,000,000.
- (b) In the 34 urban centres which have a population of more than 2,000, the total population in 1962 was 670,945. The 1948 Census of Kenya however showed only 17 towns with populations of 2,000 or more, amounting to a total urban population of 285,445. The increase revealed in the 1962 figures therefore represents a growth of 135%, giving an average rate of 6.3% per annum over the 14 years. It is interesting to note that about two-thirds of this total population consisted of populations in Nairobi and Mombasa.

9. Towns with a Population of more than 10,000 inhabitants.

Town	Population 1948	Population 1962	Rate of Growth.
Nairobi	118,976	266,795	5.94
Mombasa	84,746	179,575	5.51
Nakuru	17,625	38,180	5.68
Kisumu	10,899	23,532	5.65
Eldoret	8,193	19,601	6.43
Thika	4,435	13,945	8.53
Nanyuki	4,090	10,499	6.93

10. Yet, rapid though the rates of growth of Kenya's towns have been, they have been able to absorb only a small proportion—between 10 and 15 per cent—of the total increase in the country's population during the inter-censal period.

11. The total percentage of urbanization (7.8%) is low by international standards, but higher than Tanganyika (4.1%) and Uganda (2.4%). As a comparison Ghana has 23.1%, the Congo 23.3%, Brazil 45.1% and U. K. 78.3%. In Kenya the urbanization of African and non African communities presents a marked contrast. Only 5.3% of the African and Somali population was enumerated in urban areas in the 1962 Census compared with 84.8% of the non-African population.

RURAL AREAS

12. Within Kenya there is a general trend of movement between and within certain regions. There is for example movement from the hinterland to the coastal strip, where squatting on Arab land has become widespread and where emergency settlement schemes, designed mainly to solve the squatter problem, are in fact attracting considerable new population from the hinterland. It is hoped that future Land Consolidation and Registration, with agricultural extension schemes, will counter this movement.

13. Apart from population pressures and the natural desire to possess a smallholding a contributory cause of migration is that, as a result of land consolidation and registration, the landless cannot continue to cultivate small parcels of fringe land because

it has become consolidated and is now farmed by the African owners.

14. There is to date no government policy directed towards the acceptance of birth control measures; nor is there restriction of movement into urban centres. For those who choose to migrate to the towns, government policy is directed towards the integration of the worker and his family into the life of the town by means of full employment, the provision of dwellings rather than 'bed spaces' and the provision of social facilities. This is not to say that it has in fact been found possible to provide these facilities for all concerned.

URBAN AREAS

15. Compared with the situation existing in other countries, Kenya has so far avoided extensive major physical planning problems of mass slums arising from the rapid population growth in urban centres. The main reasons for this appears to be that migration to towns has not yet reached the high rate applicable in other countries and majority of land in urban centres is owned by the government. Also within the last 10 to 15 years density and use zoning plans have been prepared and approved for most urban centres throughout the country.

16. Pressures in Mombasa and Nairobi, the two largest towns, are however very great and squatters huts and development in temporary materials is spread over many acres. The problem is not so much a land shortage problem as that of the cost of buildings exceeding the amount which the population can afford in rent. In addition to the normal housing programme therefore

a series of 'neighbourhood units' is in hand in Nairobi on the basis of a site and service scheme catering for 10,000 inhabitants with plot owners constructing their own house and with services and land at Shs. 30/—per month being provided by the authorities. In Mombasa the policy is to prepare comprehensive plans for the many fragmented areas of privately owned land and to purchase land for community purposes before development can inflate prices.

17. With the exception of Nairobi and Mombasa which have their own planning staff, all Town Planning practice is carried out by the Government Town Planning Adviser and his small staff. A town planning service is provided to the Commissioner of Lands in respect of Government and Trust land and to Local Authorities as the interested, though not necessarily legal, authority for the proper planning of their towns. Local authorities contribute a small fee to the Planning Department's expenses for this service.

18. Every urban centre is within the jurisdiction of either a Municipal Council or a County Council and in practice planning control is done jointly by the Commissioner of Lands as 'landlord' under his planning powers, and by the Local Authority under their Bylaws. This is a very simple workable procedure and is facilitated by the existence of the use and density plans prepared by the planning office for each centre. One main difficulty which arises in the implementation of the plans is the inexperience of councils and the lack of experienced staff at the lower levels.

ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION IN EAST AFRICA, A BRIEF REPORT ON THE PRESENT SITUATION

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Since the inception of the five-year degree course in architecture at the University College, Nairobi, substantial progress has been achieved in the field of architectural education and further developments are in progress.

As initiated by the chairman of our education committee at the first Commonwealth Architects' Conference, the University College invited Professor R. Gardner-Medwin of Liverpool University, to advise and assist in the improvement of architectural education. After exhaustive consultation with all parties concerned, in October 1964 he prepared a report setting out a number of recommendations. Many of the suggestions of

our Education Committee were included in his Report.

After his second visit, in June 1965 he was able to report several of the recommendations as completed facts. A formal link has been established between the Nairobi Department of Architecture and the Liverpool School of Architecture. This includes a joint lectureship scheme, under which the writer is the first appointee, having arrived here in August 1965, and a second one is due to arrive in August this year. As part of this cooperation scheme, the students who completed their third year here in 1965, went to Liverpool offices for a one year training period, under the supervision of the Liverpool School of Architecture. A professorial position has also been created, and Professor David Oakley is due to arrive here shortly to take up his duties as director of studies in the Faculty. All these came about with the assistance of the U. K. Ministry of Overseas Development.

An important step forward is that the entrance requirements have been raised to at least one 'A'—level pass—with effect from 1967.

The Department is in a transitional period. Some of the present third year students were admitted to the course leading to the EAIA/RIBA examinations, but others are already enrolled to the five-year degree course. This degree will give them exemption from the EAIA Final, Parts I and II examinations. Part III of the Final examination is and will be conducted by the Institute even for those who will have acquired the degree. A pre-requisite for admission to the Part III examination is the completion of two years practical training, of which one year must be after graduation or after completing Part II, whichever the case may be. To assist members who cooperate and employ such trainees, a "Statement and Record of Practical Experience" has been prepared, which will be sent to members in the near future.